

Since my return I have been working  
hard at Compositae for genera I have  
got through *Peroniaceae* and have  
nearly done *Eupatoriaceae* the two easiest  
tribes in *Peroniaceae* I was much disposed  
to place in the first order the character  
you made such good use of in *Eupatoriaceae*  
the angled or 10-ribbed achenes - the  
difficulty is in the first place as to a  
few cases where the secondary ribs are  
faint so as to make it uncertain to which  
set the plant would belong and in the  
next place as to *Peronia* itself which  
though in the great mass of species - all  
the American and the larger old world  
ones - has 10-ribbed achenes yet the verticillate  
tepals, has them angled and generally  
speaking in some species comes as near to  
*Cyanopsis* (which has them angled) as to *Peronia*  
I should therefore have been inclined to  
separate *Tephrodes* generically (including  
in it *V. Wrightiana* and one or two near it  
it with rather large heads) but that in the  
first place it has a very decided *Peronia*  
pappus and again amidst all the numerous

25, WILTON PLACE.

S.W.

Oct 20/70

My dear Gray

I have been long intending to write  
to you but find myself always very  
stagnant in fulfilling epistolary intentions  
I have now to say that I have sent to  
Brisbane for you the 5<sup>th</sup> vol. of my  
*Flora Australiensis* - It was published  
in August but I was then out of town  
and the horrible state of the Continent  
having interfered with the despatch  
of two or three copies I sent there I  
somehow or other sent none out and  
it was only on despatching Dr Candolle's  
that I discovered I had forgotten you  
Mr Bentham and myself had a very  
pleasant summer chiefly wintering friends  
but we also spent ten days at Penzance

with beautiful weather which we very much enjoyed and we returned to town this daye last month in great vigour. I have as yet felt next to nothing of the rheumatism I suffered so much from last autumn and winter. When we left town early in July all was peace and prosperity and it seems imperible to realize the dreadful change that France has experienced. Although she has brought it on herself it is imperible with so much that I have seen in that country to love and to admire not to feel deeply for her and not to have her constantly in ones anxious thoughts and to look out eagerly for any gleam of hope that she may soon be extricated from her calamitous position but I much fear that nothing will ever cure her - rulers as well as the governed - of that unprincipled vanity with which she would meddle with and regulate her neighbours concerns without conceiving

it possible that they should in return interfere with her - and in her present state of complete disorganization with the total absence of principle moral social or political in the dominant party it is very difficult to conceive any satisfactory settlement for you to come even after they may have got rid of the Germans. Prussia has of course collapsed like every thing else. Triana and his family came over here with what things they could carry away - articles of furniture etc they were obliged to leave to their fate at Drancy la Reine. Corron sent over his wife and daughter and her baby and they are here reduced to hearing of him only by rare balloon posts. Bronquevert and Decaine who were dwelling when Triana left we have not heard since. (Kemper happened to be absent from Strasbourg when the roof broke out and Fee got away with the Lewis party - but the whole thing is too distressing to dwell upon.

I know not what to make of *Trichocoronis*,  
the style is not to my eye Eupatoriaceous and  
our specimens are only just in flower ::  
that I cannot see the form of the anthers,  
nor the developed pappus.

I suppose we must adopt *Fleischmannia*  
Ch. Dip. It is my *Eupatorium*? *quinquepartitum*  
and Hook. Arn. *Phania acuminifolia* is a second  
species.

It seems to me that *Peroniaceae* have the  
anthers sagittate at the base with the  
auricles of adjoining  
to the end and although  
acuminate usually  
to the end except in *Adenoclon* *Neurocarpa*  
and *Centropogon* where they project into  
short tails - whilst in *Carpophobus*, each  
auricle has a separate point or tail at the  
base the whole cylinder of anthers being  
5-pointed instead of 5-pointed at the base  
in *Eupatoriaceae* the anthers are often  
truncate at the base without auricles  
below the attachment of the filament

I find it rather difficult to hunt up  
all you have read in your scattered  
papers but hope I shall miss nothing  
for your observations are capital guides

Work is hard at work at *Putnam*  
and I hope we shall point in the spring

genera dismembered from *Peronia* no one  
has ever separated *Tephrosia* and it might be  
acting too much against the unanimous aspect  
of botanists to do so now. With two exceptions  
I keep *Peronia* in the comprehensive sense  
adopted by Desf. and DC. with the addition  
of *Gymnanthemum* (*Occanemum* var. DC) *Webbia*  
*Ditelychanus* *Prochium* *Monochloa* *Scleraria*  
and a number of *Cast.* and *Ch. Dip.* African  
genera. I separate *Carpophobus* (*Vanillopsis*  
DC. *Moxanthemum* *Spiraea* which is *Eup. triflorum*  
Aubl. and has generally if not always 3 flowers  
sagittate) which has a peculiar habit and  
tailed anthers and *Pyrtolysis* *Ch. Dip.* which  
has a peculiar habit and the very peculiar  
pappus of *Centropogon* - the latter genus  
I would include the old world *Stylocephala*  
with *Ch. Dip.* I would restrict *Albertinia* to  
European original species and distribute DC's  
other species into *Vanillopsis* and *Eremaanthus*  
I include *Urophopappus* and *Xyphochloa* in  
*Melanocephalus* and with *Ch. Dip.* comprise  
*Adenocylon* *Odontoloma* *Dialista* and *Polalata*  
under *Oliganthus*. *Eremaanthus* would  
take in *Chresta* *Pycnocephalus* *Stachyanthus*  
and *Sphocera*, *hoya*. *Pyrtoloma* and *Lychno-*  
*cephalus* go into *Lychnophora* and I would  
repeal altogether from *Peroniaceae* *Trichopira*  
*Lagacera* *Lychnocadron* (*Hemarris*?) *Doyeria*  
and the *Legum.* and *Pestidaeae* stems are still the  
order in *Desf.* only.

The Eupatoriaceae as far as I have gone  
 (I have not yet done the European genera.)  
 besides the good subtribeal distinction  
 you pointed out in the achenes I would  
 make a third subtribe *Piqueriae* with  
 5 angled achenes and exappendiculate  
 achenes. This would include 1. *Piqueria* to  
 which I would refer the true *Thalassia*  
 (not the Brazilian ones which are already  
<sup>part of *Notostictis* which is an *Ageratum*</sup>)  
 2 *Mania* 3 *Decacheta* (2 sp. both Mexican  
 the Brazilian ones belong to *Ageratum*)  
 4 *Notostictis* as to *M. baccharoides* <sup>and *Lactuca*</sup> including the  
*Bakyrporpus* *Eupatorium* *pequeiroide* &  
*Mitonia* *Mandoni* *Ch. Dig.* etc. excluding <sup>all</sup>  
 of *Copini* <sup>the genus must stay from *Stictis* *Meyers* name</sup> which are *Stictis* & *Gymnocoronis*  
 and 6 *Adenostemma*.

*Coelostima* cannot I think be separated  
 from *Ageratum* the two are closely connected  
 by Griseb's *A. matium* and some others.

Should *Caryophorus* be really kept up  
 distinct from *Leptocarpus*? - there is certainly habit  
 as well as the palea of the receptacle - but the  
 habit of *Prillia* is perhaps more distinct in  
 habit and the palea are of no avail in *Ageratum*  
*Coelostima* or in *Eupatorium* (*Chromolaena*)  
 where they are voracious and always deciduous,  
 not like the palea of *Helianthemum*.

Have you done anything with *Sarcomera*  
*Leptocarpus* *trichotoma*? It is near *Eupatorium*  
 but with very deciduous pappus, occasionally

1 or 2 secondary ribs to the achenes and a  
 rather remarkable style.

I cannot keep up the small genera  
 separated by De from *Eupatorium*  
 (*Chromolaena* *Campuloclinium* *Conoclinium*  
*Hebeclinium* *Occlinium* *Crotinia*) ~~except~~ any  
 more than *Triphasia* and the Brazilian  
*Skullbottle* which you have already sent  
 nor yet adopt what I see Ch. Dig. proposes  
 in some herbacea *Ormia* for the *Embricata*  
*Heterotera* for some of the *cubimbricata*  
*Egyptis* for the *P. Brasilian* species with  
 strongly bebellate pappus and *Ageratum*  
 for a very *Ageratum* - looking Brazilian  
 species with the pappus of *Eupatorium*  
 different as the extreme individuals are  
 they are too much connected by numerous  
 intermediates to be available for more  
 than series of species - and the more or  
 less convex receptacle and nerved hairs  
 on some of them are but very vague  
 characters of degree.

I should be most obliged to you for  
 your opinion on any of these points  
 and for any suggestions you may make.  
 With kindest regards to all  
 yours, believe me

Ever your sincerely  
 [1871?] G. S. George Bentham  
 det. 22 tent over